

### **REMARKS**

**Claims in the Application.** Claims 16, 26, 33, 34, 45, 47-48 and 50-52 have, by this amendment, been cancelled from this application. Claims 1, 17, 23, 27-32, 35, 46, 49 and 53 have been amended. Accordingly, Claims 1-15, 17-25, 27-32, 35, 46, 49 and 53 are active in this application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

**Amendment to the Claims.** Claims 16, 17 and 23, each of which is dependent on Claim 1, have not been rejected by the Examiner. Applicants therefore have amended Claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of Claim 16 and have amended Claims 17 and 23 to include the limitations of Claim 1.

**Examiner's Rejection of the Claims.** The Examiner has made the following grounds of rejection:

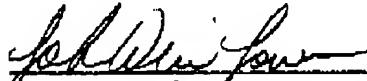
- (a) Claims 46 and 49 under the second paragraph of 35 USC § 112;
- (b) Claims 1-5, 8-12, 14-15, 18-21, 27-31, 45, 46, 49, 50, 51 and 53 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,465,792 ("*Dawson*");
- (c) Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dawson* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,123,159 ("*Brookey*");
- (d) Claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dawson* in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,532,052 ("*Weaver*");
- (e) Claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Dawson* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,630,679 ("*Reeves*");
- (f) Claims 33 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over *Dawson* in view of *Reeves*; and
- (g) Claim 34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being over *Dawson* and *Reeves* and further in view of *Weaver*.

The necessity for discussion of these rejections has been rendered moot by the amendment to the claims.

**Conclusions.** In view of the foregoing amendments, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

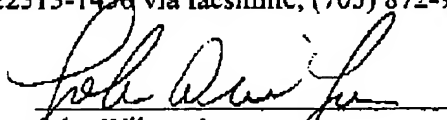
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**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION, 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 via facsimile, (703) 872-9306 on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2006.

  
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